

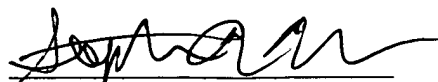
REMARKS

Claim 5, 7, 8, 11-13, 18-21, 24-26, 31-34, 37-39, 44, and 46-56 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 49-56 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 49, 51, 53 and 55 have been rewritten in independent form so that claims 49-56 no longer depend from a rejected base claim. The remaining claims have either been amended to depend from one of allowable claims 49-56 or have been canceled. Accordingly, all of the currently pending claims are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen R. Valancius
Registration No. 57,574

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 8, 2006